



## **Middle Lake-FDT 2223**

**Difficulty:** More Difficult  
**Trail Use:** Low  
**Length:** 3.5 miles  
**Elevation:** Starts at 9664 feet, ends at 11,146 feet, highest point 11,795 feet  
**Elevation Gain:** +2622 feet - 1140 feet = +1482 feet  
**Open To:** Hiking, horseback riding

### **Access:**

- Travel 16.5 miles east from Eagle on I-70 to the Edwards exit and head south towards the town and Hwy. 6.
- At Hwy. 6 turn right, heading west, for 0.7 miles to Lake Creek Rd., turn left, south, at the National Forest Access sign.
- Travel on this road for 1.8 miles and turn right onto West Lake Creek Road.
- Travel 2.7 miles to the Baryeta Cabins Rd., FDR 423, and turn right at the switchback. This road will become a rough, rutted, 4-wheel drive road for 3.2 miles until it dead-ends at the Baryeta Cabins site.
- There is parking at the trailhead and information board, no mountain bikes allowed past this point.

### **Trail Highlights:**

- This trail is one of the steepest and most challenging trails on the Eagle District, traveling from the Baryeta Cabins site through the Holy Cross Wilderness to Middle Lake.
- The trail climbs 1000 feet in the first 1/2 mile to a total rise of 2200 feet at the highest point 2.5 miles along the trail. At 1.5 miles Dead Dog-FDT 2220 connects with the trail.
- The trail begins by crossing West Lake Creek and climbing through spruce and fir up a number of switchbacks, then through a krummholtz forest before it comes to a rocky alpine meadow. Be sure to look for stone cairns to help guide the way.
- The descent to Middle Lake, 680 feet, is very steep and rocky. This 9 acre lake is surrounded by spruce/fir and rocky, snow-covered peaks rising in the background.
- The lake offers the opportunity to fish for rainbow and Colorado cutthroat trout.
- A wide variety of alpine wildflowers can be viewed in the meadows: kingscrown, white marsh marigold, globeflower, harebells and phlox.

### **Important Information:**

- **ALL DISTANCES ARE ONE WAY.**
- **THIS TRAIL ENTERS THE HOLY CROSS WILDERNESS, PLEASE PRACTICE WILDERNESS ETHICS TO HELP PRESERVE THIS RESOURCE.**

**PACK IT IN-PACK IT OUT!! LEAVE NO TRACE!!**

*THIS MAP IS INTENDED FOR USE AS A GENERAL GUIDE ONLY, NOT FOR ACTUAL LAND NAVIGATION. THE WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST STRONGLY SUGGESTS PURCHASING A TOPOGRAPHIC TRAIL MAP AND COMPASS PRIOR TO BEGINNING A HIKING TRIP.*



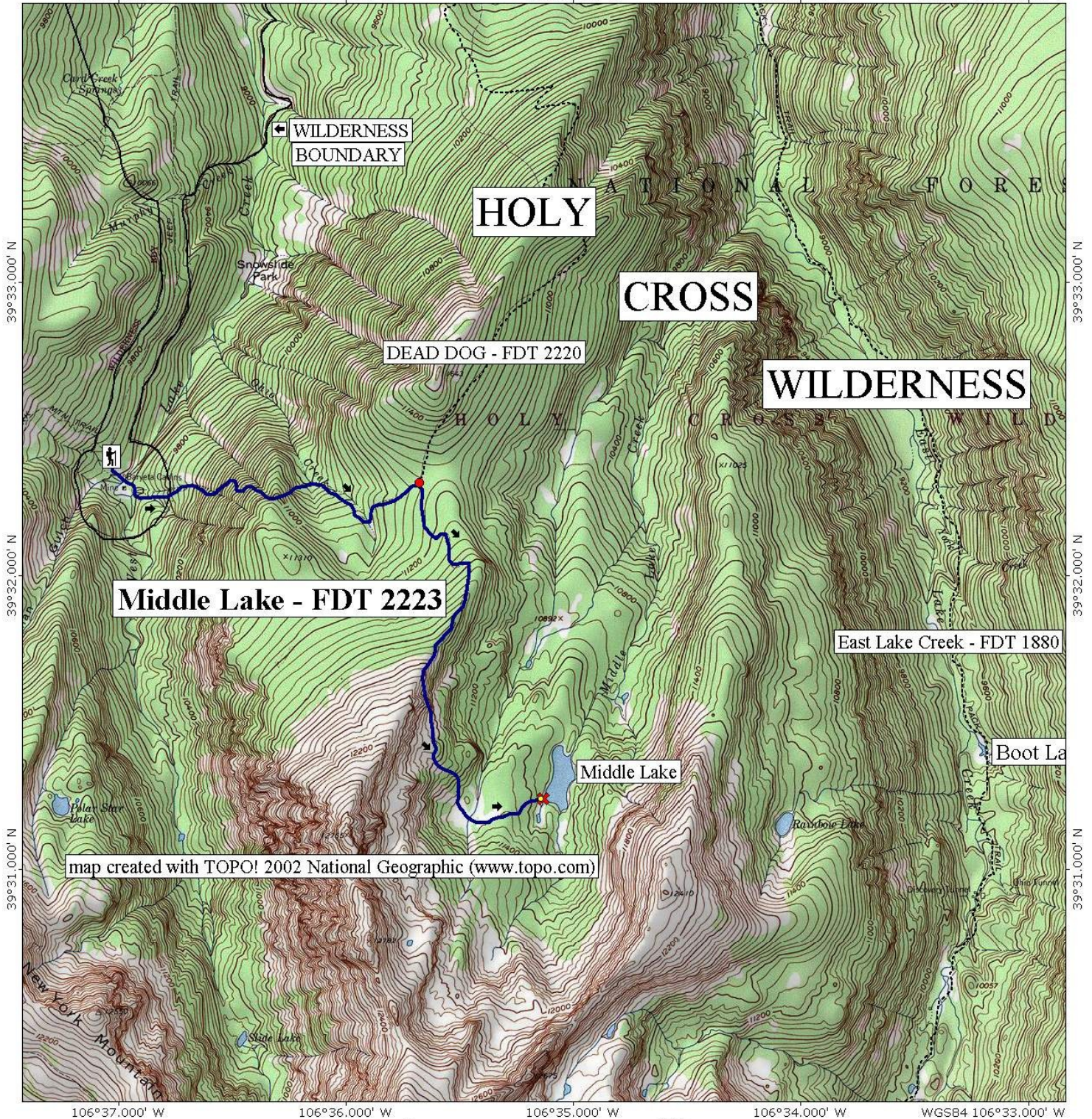
106°37.000' W

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